

September 2005

If Rumors Were Horses

Katina Strauch

Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

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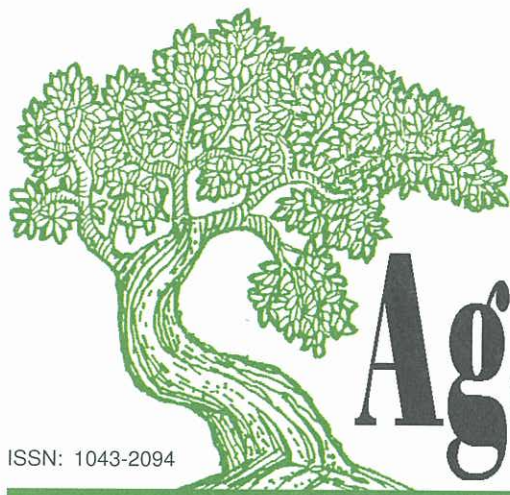
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Against the Grain

c/o Katina Strauch
209 Richardson Avenue
MSC 98, The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409

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Against the Grain

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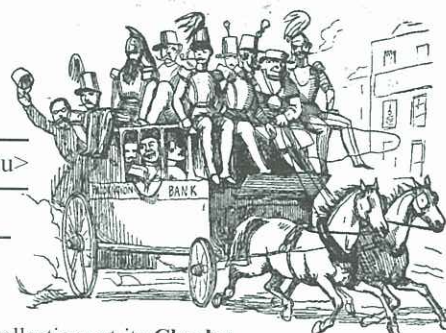
Reference eBooks: Does an eBook On The Screen Beat One On The Shelf?

by **Frances C. Wilkinson** (Phone: 505-277-4241; Fax: 505-277-7196) <fwilkins@unm.edu>

and **Linda K. Lewis** (Phone 505-277-7828; Fax 505-277-4446) <llewis@unm.edu>

In reference publishing the first electronic resources were journal indexes. Now reference books such as handbooks, dictionaries and encyclopedias are widely available electronically with value-added features and acquisition options not available in their print counterparts. Electronic versions of reference eBooks are not limited to just text. They may present information in multiple media formats, for example, the text about a type of bird may be accompanied by video depicting the bird in flight and audio featuring its song. Publishers are developing a variety of ways to acquire these materials; they can be purchased individually or in a package or they can be leased as individual titles or a package of titles. Packages of titles may remain the same or change over time with new titles being added and others being removed. Many library users have rarely or never used print reference resources. Increasingly, they expect all reference materials, including reference books, to be online.

This article explores the rapidly changing world of reference books — the ways that electronic reference books are being selected, purchased, and budgeted. It further asks: once these electronic reference materials are acquired, how do your patrons and librarians react to them? How do libraries promote these resources? To address these issues the authors conducted an interview-style "joint discussion" among seven librarians from five Universities: **The University of Alaska**, the **University of California at Los Angeles**, **Colorado State University**, the **University of New Mexico**, and the **Ohio University**. All but Alaska are **Association of Research Libraries** members. Although all five libraries are members of multiple consortia, three — Alaska, California, and Ohio — are members of consortia that provide extensive collections of electronic reference materials to their members. All answers address system-wide reference e-collections for the reporting University except for **UCLA's** answers that describe only the



collections at its **Charles E. Young Research Library**, covering primarily graduate research collections in humanities, social sciences, and education.

1) *What electronic reference sources does your library currently have? How long have you had them?*

Christina E. ('Trina') Carter, Head of Reference Services, Consortium Library, University of Alaska, Anchorage: "The University of Alaska Anchorage Consortium Library subscribes to a varied group of electronic reference

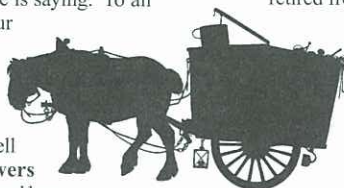
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If Rumors Were Horses

Another summer. Lots happening.

First, **Hurricane Katrina**. The news from New Orleans, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi is not good. I hope that it is not as bad as everyone is saying. To all our friends in libraries out there, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

A little **human interest** story about two of our own **Charleston Conference** attendees who lived through **Hurricane Katrina** and can tell us firsthand about it. **Susanna Powers** <powersgodblessnola@yahoo.com> and her husband **Johnny Powers** stayed in New Orleans, **Susanna** spent five grueling days in the Superdome while **Johnny** stayed with their home to try to protect it. As matters got worse, **Susanna** came to believe that **Johnny** had perished in the storm and flooding. She wrote her husband's obituary. But! **Johnny** is alive and they are now both together at **Susanna's** sister's house in Ocala, Florida. I talked to them both on the telephone. New Orleans was terrible, they say, but much of the informa-



tion being distributed by the media is wrong. **Susanna** just got her 25 year plaque from **Tulane** where she is **Serials & Electronic Resources Librarian**. **Johnny** is retired from the **University of New Orleans**.

Susanna also saw **Bob Bledsoe**, retired **Acquisitions Librarian** at **Tulane**, at the Superdome and reports that he is fine under the circumstances. Hooray!! And maybe they will be in **Charleston**? We'll have to celebrate!

Philip Blackwell, Chairman, **Blackwell Limited**, has announced the appointment of **Gary Rautenstrauch** as **CEO Blackwell's Book Services**, effective immediately. **Rautenstrauch's** proven track record in distribution and system delivery will help the company accelerate the delivery of service improvements following the implementation of its new order management and distribution system. **Rautenstrauch** will be based at **Blackwell's Book Services** headquarter-

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ters in Lake Oswego OR, and will report to the **Blackwell** board in Oxford. This appointment signals a renewed focus on **Blackwell's Book Services** distribution and sales operations. There will be no changes to the current **Blackwell's Book Services** management team, and **Daniel Halloran** will remain as president. Said **Halloran**, "I look forward to this next phase of my career. I have a long-standing respect and admiration for the staff of **Blackwell's** and the 126-year **Blackwell** tradition. **Gary Rautenstrauch** is an outstanding addition to the company and I welcome him. The new structure gives me an opportunity to do more of the thing I've loved best over my 37 years in the industry — working with the customer." You will all remember the very capable **Gary Rautenstrauch** who is not new to us. He served in a number of executive positions at **Baker & Taylor (B&T)**, most recently as president and CEO from 2001 to 2003. In that role he oversaw institutional and retail distributor operations, including sales and distribution. www.blackwell.com

Great news! Stefanie DuBose <duboses@mail.ecu.edu> (Head, Acquisitions, Academic Library Services, East Carolina University) and guest editor of the fabulously popular June 2005 issue of **ATG** on acquisitions and collection development writes that her husband **Jon** is in the U.S. and is expected in Greenville, NC shortly. Pretty wonderful.

And, speaking of **East Carolina**, the incredibly positive, up-beat, resilient, tough, and never quitting, **Deana Astle** is valiantly battling endometrial cancer. Her pain is under control and her doctor is treating her. She has stabilized and things are looking better. **Deana** is hopeful that she will be able to come to **Charleston** in November. Our prayers and good thoughts are with her.

The awesome **Heather Miller** <hmiller@uamail.albany.edu> sends word that **Katherine L. Latal** was appointed **Head of the Acquisitions Services Department at the State University of New York at Albany**, effective June 2, 2005. Ms. Latal holds M.L.S. and B.A. degrees from SUNY Albany and has served the department in several capacities since 1986, and has been Acting Head. Previously she worked as a cataloging assistant at **Russell Sage College**, Troy, New York. Ms. Latal brings considerable experience in acquisitions work as well as extensive library, university, and professional service to this position.

Some pretty great news! **Robert S. Martin**, who recently completed his four-year term as **Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** in Washington, D.C., will join **OCLC** as **Special Advisor to the President for Cultural Heritage Institutions**. Dr. Martin will consult for **OCLC** on special assignments beginning August 1. "I have followed the work of **OCLC** closely over the past four years, and I am optimistic that I can help **OCLC** extend the value of its services to even more cultural heritage institutions around the world," said Dr. Martin. www.oclc.org/news/releases/200515.htm

And guess what? Our own sportsman! The incredible **Don Jaeger's** son, **Bryan Jaeger**, Connecticut College senior defenseman, has signed a contract with the **Tulsa Oilers of the Central Hockey League**. Bryan graduated from **Connecticut College** with a double major in Economics and History and was a Dean's Honor Student. He is going to try out for the **Carolina Stingrays** in October as well. We may have him in **Charleston** again after all. Congratulations to Don and his family!

The always on the ball **Scott Eller** <scott.eller@lexisnexis.com> sends word of the death of his predecessor, **Don Fitch**. May he rest in peace.

Jan Velterop has taken the newly created position of **Director of Open Access at Springer**. In July 2004 Springer launched "**Springer Open Choice**" a pioneering project which provides an additional publication option to the traditional subscription model. Authors can choose to make their articles freely available worldwide on the Internet, for a fee of 3,000 US dollars. **Open Choice** is a further development of the **Open Access** concept which is supported by a section of the scientific community. **Velterop** is one of the most prominent figures of the **Open Access** movement. He will be joining the company from **BioMedCentral**, an established **Open Access** biomedical research publisher, where he was Publishing Director. **Derk Haank**, Springer's CEO, comments: "The appointment of **Jan Velterop** creates an internal champion for this second component of our publishing policy, making sure **Open Access** gets the required attention both internally and externally." Adds **Velterop**: "I am firmly convinced that **Open Access** publishing represents a powerful way to meet the needs of many authors and readers. It therefore fits in ideally with Springer's growth strategy."

BioOne, a nonprofit online aggregator of scholarly journals in the biosciences, has appointed **Susan Skomal** as **Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer**, starting in mid-October. Dr. Skomal has been a staff member of the **American Anthropological Association** since 1991, most recently, since 2000, as **Director of Publications** and the leader of the Association's transition from print to electronic publishing. She earned a Ph.D. from the **University of California at Los Angeles** and is a former Adjunct Professor at the **University of Maryland, University College**. She succeeds **Heather Joseph**, **BioOne's** founding President, who assumed the position of **Executive Director of SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)** in July. www.arl.org/sparc/announce/082205.html

Amazon.com has announced **Amazon Shorts** — a new way for customers to enjoy their favorite authors and sample the work of new authors through exclusive short-form literature, digitally delivered for 49 cents each. With **Amazon Shorts**, **Amazon.com** aims to revive short-form literature by making it easy for authors to publish — and for readers to find, discover, and buy — single, short-form works. From alternate endings to popular books, to personal memoirs, to classic short stories, **Amazon Shorts** span a wide range of genres and formats. Writers such as **Ann Beattie**, **James Lee Burke**, **Harry S. Dent**, **Audrey Niffenegger**, and **Danielle Steel** are among the authors who have already provided exclusive content for **Amazon Shorts**, and the offering will continue to grow. A departure from what publishing economics currently support, **Amazon Shorts** enables authors to efficiently offer single short-form works (2,000 to 10,000 words) to a broad customer base. Through this new, digital format, authors can sell their works in an entirely new way, as well as leverage this forum to test new story ideas with readers and publish short pieces in between books. **Amazon Shorts** is its own store at **Amazon.com**. The **Shorts** are fully integrated into the **Amazon** Website, making them searchable and providing all of the customer ratings, reviews and recommendations that **Amazon.com** users have come to expect. **Amazon Shorts** are copyrighted works available for purchase and cost 49 cents each. However, in order to preserve a frictionless viewing experience, no digital rights management software is needed to download and read **Amazon Shorts**. Customers who purchase **Amazon Shorts** will have three options for reading the piece: **View now**: Takes customers to a Web page to read or print out the **Amazon Short**. **Download**: Initiates the download of a PDF file. **E-mail**: Sends the entire **Amazon Short** in a plain-text message to the specified e-mail address. **Amazon Shorts** will also be

stored permanently in customers' **Digital Lockers**, and customers are welcome to print out hard copies of purchased **Amazon Shorts** from any of these formats. www.amazon.com/shorts.

And speaking of **Amazon**, did you see **InfoToday's NewsBreaks** dated August 8, 2005? Entitled "OCLC and Amazon: A Connection Revealed," it's by the amazing **Chuck Hamaker** and discusses the new functionality and depth of Amazon's book title database given the addition of **OCLC WorldCat** content. The discovery of relatively unique titles held by a few libraries worldwide is possible. And there are new possibilities for Print on Demand and location of Out of Print titles. Read more at www.infotoday.com/newsbreaks/nb050808-1.shtml

The above builds on the book search features of **A9.com**, the subsidiary of **Amazon.com** that was launched in 2003. Speaking of **A9.com**, they have just launched "**A9.com Maps**", a new service that shows users an interactive map and corresponding street-level images in a single interface. **A9's BlockView™** technology brings traditional maps to life by combining driving directions and other convenient mapping tools with street-level images of millions of places and their surroundings. a9.com/-/company/media/index.jsp#current

And speaking of **WorldCat** — About 10,000 records describing and linking to articles from **47 top Chilean scientific and technical journals** are now available in **WorldCat**. Scientists, researchers, students, and other users can access these records and the corresponding article text at no additional cost via **WorldCat** on the **OCLC FirstSearch** service. The articles are in English, Portuguese, and Spanish and are published in the **Scientific Electronic Library Online Chile**. **SciELO Chile** is an electronic library of scientific journals from Chile, using the open access model, based on the platform developed by **BIREME/FAPESP**. www.bireme.org/www.scielo.br/
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[www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?script=sci_home&camp;lng=en&camp;nm=iso](http://www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?script=sci_home&lng=en&camp;nm=iso)

And more from **OCLC Abstracts**, August 29, 2005 (Vol. 8, Issue 35) — **Will Google Print and keyword searching eliminate the need for LC cataloging and classification?** According to **Thomas Mann**, a Reference Librarian in the Main Reading Room of the **Library of Congress**, the answer is no. The programs' limitations make cataloging and classification even more important to researchers. **Mann** says that **Google Print** and keyword search mechanism, backed by the display of results in relevance ranked order, are designed and optimized for quick information seeking rather than scholarship. They do not provide scholars with the structured menus of research options needed for overview perspectives of the book literature on their topics. Searching by keywords is not the same as searching by conceptual categories. Keyword searching does not map the taxonomies that alert researchers to unanticipated aspects of their subjects. It fails to retrieve literature that uses keywords other than those specified by the researcher, he says, missing not only synonyms and variant phrases but also relevant works in foreign languages. Cataloging and classification do provide the recognition mechanisms that scholarship requires for systematic literature retrieval in book collections. www.gUILD2910.org/searching.htm

Dlib magazine has just turned ten years old. See the latest issue (July/August 2005) which has much worth reading and of special interest — **Where Do We Go From Here? The Next Decade for Digital Libraries** by the incredible **Clifford Lynch**. www.dlib.org/dlib.html

Was poking around on the **University of California Press Website** and located news of the sum-

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mer issue of *Gastronomica* which is devoted solely to remembering and honoring the legacy of **Julia Child**, who changed the way America thinks about food, cooking, and the culinary world as a whole. Thoughts, memories, ad perceptions about her life and legacy are included. www.ucpress.edu/journals/gfc/

Speaking of which, do you know about **SHERPA**? **SHERPA** is part of the **JISC FAIR (Focus on Access to Institutional Resources) Programme** which supports projects aiming to achieve the "disclosure of institutional assets" with the vision of setting up a "Web of resources built by groups with a long term stake in the future of those resources, but made available through service providers to the whole community of learning." Anyway, **UC Press'** archiving policies have recently received **Green Designation from SHERPA/RoMEO**. www.sherpa.ac.uk/about.html
www.ucpress.edu/journals/download/sherpa.pdf

From **Edupage**, August 19, 2005 and **Wired News** August 18, 2005 — **Empire High School** in Arizona has issued iBook laptops to all of its 340 students when they started the fall semester. Empire High is a new school, conceived as one that does not use printed textbooks, though it does include a library with printed books. www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,68578,00.html

What do you think of the theme "That's My Story and I'm Sticking To It!" for the 2006 **Charleston Conference**? The fabulous **Jay Askuvich** <askuvich@midwestls.com> and the even more fabulous **Cindy Human** from **Midwest Library Service** were recently in Charleston visiting and we started speculating about the origin of the phrase. Writes Jay, "Colin Quinn of **Saturday Night Live** fame ended his **Weekend Update** segment with that catch phrase." So ... what do y'all think?

The incredible **Lynne Brindley**, Chief Executive of the **British Library** has accepted a permanent contract from the **Board of the British Library**, following her successful five year tenure as Chief Executive. The announcement was made to staff by **Lord Eatwell**, Chairman of the British Library Board. The offer was made with the unanimous agreement of the Board and supported by the **Department of Culture, Media and Sport**. **Lynne Brindley** joined the Library on 1 July 2000, being both the first library information professional and woman to hold the position of Chief Executive. www.bl.uk/news/2005/pressrelease20050628.html

ProQuest Information and Learning has expanded its newspaper digitization program to include small town and community newspaper archives. The new expanded program brings state-of-the-art preservation and access to smaller, more specialized collections. **ProQuest** launched its new expanded service with the digitization of the **Zeeland Record**, the tiny weekly that has served its Western Michigan community since the 1890s, when the town became a destination for Dutch settlers in the state. The **Howard Miller Library** in Zeeland contracted **ProQuest** to digitize its 43 rolls of microfilmed issues of **The Record** after receiving a financial gift from the estate of a board member. "This is an important step in the evolution of our digital newspaper program," said the bam-zowie **Rod Gauvin**, **ProQuest** vice president. **ProQuest's** small newspaper digitization program is nearly identical to the digitization program used for major national newspapers, such as **The New York Times**. Because small newspapers have fewer articles per page, article-level searching is not required. Instead **ProQuest** digitizes to the page level, making the service more affordable for small communities. Also, each **ProQuest** project — large or small — is cross-searchable within the larger database. For example, **The Zeeland Record** can be searched in conjunction with **The New York Times** or **Chicago Tribune**, providing research-

ers with the "local angle" in the context of the larger, national story. www.proquest.com

The **American Chemical Society** and **ScholarOne, Inc.**, provider of Web-based workflow management solutions for scholarly publishers are pleased to announce that the Publications Division of the **American Chemical Society** has chosen **ScholarOne Manuscript Central** to expand and enhance its online peer review and manuscript management capabilities. Implementation of the new system, which will be called **The ACS Paragon Plus Environment Powered by ScholarOne Manuscript Central**, is scheduled to commence in Autumn 2005. **ACS Publications** currently publishes 33 leading publications in the chemical and related sciences, including the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, and *Chemical & Engineering News* magazine. In 2006, **ACS** will introduce *ACS Chemical Biology*, a new publication at the interface of biology and chemistry. www.ScholarOne.com

Hights Crossing Communications, Inc., has sold its **Chelsea House** business effective August 9, 2005, to **Facts on File, Inc.** The terms of the deal were not disclosed. **Chelsea House** will be reported as a discontinued operation beginning in the third quarter ended September 30, 2005. www.hightscross.com/

Triumph Learning, a publisher of supplementary educational texts and software and a **Hights Cross Communications** company, has named **Marie Spano** Vice President and Editorial Director. **Spano** reports to **Bill Scroggie**, **Triumph Learning's** Publisher. **Triumph Learning**, formerly known as **Educational Design, Inc.**, has a 40-year track record of publishing high-quality K-12 supplemental materials. **Triumph Learning** is the largest publisher of test preparation materials for state tests, and develops and distributes the renowned **Coach™** series for test programs in 25 states as well as for the three major nationally normed tests. www.triumphlearning.com.
www.hightscross.com/dyncnt/press.cfm

According to **Peter Scott's Library Blog** — <http://blog.xrefer.com> (May 31, 2005) — A digital portal to collections of the **National Library of China** <http://www.nlc.gov.cn/> was opened on May 29, providing online search and accession to digitalized resources of the library. As the latest public service platform launched by the library, the D-portal combines 37 Chinese-language data banks, 77 foreign language data banks, 16,000-odd periodicals in both Chinese and foreign languages, as well as special resources including local records, Dunhuang documents, periodicals of the Republic of China (1912-1949) and doctoral dissertation and master's thesis, all purchased or established by the national library (5/30/2005 4:05:37 AM).

Was talking to the astute **Peter Givler** <pgivler@aup.net> the other day. Be sure and read his **Issues in Vendor/Library Relations**, this issue, p.72. It's, of course, about **Google** and **Google Print**. And we hope to have a regular column from Peter throughout the year!

And speaking of the **Google Print for Libraries program**, there has been a lot of press lately about this and **Google** seems to be slowing their digitization project at least for books published since 1923 somewhat. See **Barbara Quint's NewsBreaks** of August 15, 2005 — "Google Slows Library Project to Accommodate Publishers" by Barbara Quint. www.infotoday.com/newsbreaks/nb050815-1.shtml
print.google.com/googleprint/publisher_library.html

Eight academic libraries in Hong Kong will launch a 9-million-volume resource-sharing network utilizing **Innovative's INN-Reach** solution. Scheduled for start-up in September, the new **Hong Kong Academic Library Link (HKALL)** will leverage the success of a pilot project using **INN-Reach** undertaken by **City University of Hong Kong**,

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Lingnan University, and the University of Hong Kong. During the pilot, participating library staff found that patron usage of the service greatly exceeded that of the previous interlibrary loan (ILL) option, while items were delivered more quickly at a much lower cost. The expanded HKALL system will also include the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong Institute of Education, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. "The new INN-Reach system was found to be much cheaper than operating a traditional ILL system. Items were 42% less expensive to lend and 45% less expensive to borrow," says **Tony Ferguson**, Library Director at University of Hong Kong. "Turn-around was also faster with 95% of patron requests met within two working days, compared with only 9% of ILL requests." During the initial project, over 6,700 items were requested and delivered with a user satisfaction rate of 80%." The eight Hong Kong universities applied successfully for funding from Hong Kong's University Grants Committee (UGC) to expand the project beyond the first three libraries. HKALL will be the first INN-Reach site in Asia. www.iii.com/

Speaking of the great **Tony Ferguson**, we will miss him in **Charleston** this year (I know, he said he would be here, but now he has delayed his appearance by another year ...). Still, be sure and read his **Back Talk** on Aphorisms, this issue, p.94. Things Are Seldom What They Seem. An Aphorism?

From **EduPage 24 August, 2005** — **Google** has announced a free service called **Google Talk** that lets email account holders talk to each other using a PC, microphone, and speakers and provides instant messaging capability. **Google** reportedly plans to make the service compatible with other companies' services,

basing it on an open standard, which would allow users to talk to people on competing systems. Users will not be able to make calls to landlines or mobile phones, however. The new service does not carry advertising, but **Google** hopes it will encourage people to sign up for the **Gmail** service, which does. **BBC**, 24 August 2005.

news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4179322.stm
www.educause.edu/EduPage/639

Bowker has recently released a variety of new resources to assist library professionals with the operational changes necessary to transition to the new global ISBN-13 standard that takes effect in 16 months. The **International Standard Book Number (ISBN)** is the unique number that marks any book published in the world and enables that book, with its particular edition and binding, to be easily tracked by libraries, booksellers and even consumers. In order to accommodate the growing number of books being published each year, the **International ISBN Agency** recently decided to convert from a 10-digit format to 13-digit ISBNs, effective January 1, 2007. To ease that transition for libraries, **Bowker** has unveiled a new Website (www.bowkersupport.com/isbn13/) that features a series of free resources and convenient links to other useful sites. These resources include a helpful **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** fact sheet, a simple "10-digit to 13-digit ISBN" conversion tool, guidelines for the implementation of ISBN-13 in any library setting, and various tips regarding how to make the transition as seamless as possible. In addition, **Bowker** today announced that its flagship Websites, **BooksInPrint.com** and **GlobalBooksInPrint.com**, now fully support ISBN-13 searching by library professionals. Users of either site can search for specific titles by both the new ISBN-13 and the old 10-digit ISBN, either with or without hyphens. The new ISBN-13 will now automatically appear on the full description page for every title with a 10-digit ISBN. www.Bowker.com

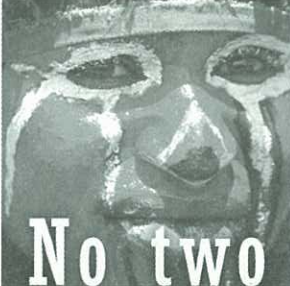
JISC — the Joint Information Systems

Committee (JISC), the UK government body that supports higher education by providing strategic guidance, advice, and opportunities to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to support education and research, has concluded an agreement for **Elsevier's Scopus A&I** database of research information. More than 70 universities and colleges have already taken advantage of the deal within just weeks of the agreement being announced. **JISC** works with higher education to provide a ubiquitous and reliable information environment so that users can enjoy world-class technologies in their work and study. **JISC** negotiates with publishers and information systems vendors on behalf of the academic community in the UK. **JISC** runs rigorous evaluations before deciding to include an online resource in its portfolio of collections and has been assessing **Scopus** since its launch in November 2004. **Lorraine Estelle**, Collections Team Manager at the **JISC** explains that the agreement with **Scopus** provides British universities with "the opportunity to take advantage of a major new resource discovery tool at the terms and conditions set out by the JISC Model License." The **Joint Information Systems Committee** is a joint committee of the UK further and higher education funding bodies, and is responsible for supporting the innovative use of information and communication technology (ICT) to support learning, teaching, and research. It is best known for providing the **JANET network**, a range of support, content and advisory services, and a portfolio of high-quality resources. www.jisc.ac.uk
www.info.scopus.com

Building upon a decade of innovation, the new **SciFinder 2006** advances its reputation as an essential information tool and part of the process of chemical and pharmaceutical research. For the first time, scientists exploring the **CAS Registry** of 26 million organic and inorganic chemical substances can retrieve "similar substances" to foster new ideas and directions in drug discovery and other fields of scientific inquiry. "Similarity Searching" is only one of several new features adding new power and depth to **SciFinder** this year. **CAS**, a division of the **American Chemical Society**, launched **SciFinder 2006** and **SciFinder Scholar 2006** at the **American Chemical Society** meeting in Washington, D.C. in August, 2005. I can't help myself. Since my daughter is a chemistry major and in her third week of medical school, Chemistry has taken on a new meaning for me. Nobel Laureate, **Dr. K. Barry Sharpless**, **W. M. Keck Professor of Chemistry** at the **Scripps Research Institute**, shared his reflections regarding the significance of **SciFinder**: "I am a big user and don't see how any researcher could hope to excel without daily, round-the-clock access. In the old days, you could be forgiven for not knowing about a certain paper, but now there is no excuse. ..." www.cas.org/

The **Esther J. Piercy Award Jury** is seeking nominations for the **Esther J. Piercy Award** which was established by the **Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association** in 1968 in memory of **Esther J. Piercy**, editor of *Journal of Cataloging and Classification* from 1950 to 1956 and of *Library Resources & Technical Services* from 1957 to 1967. The award consists of a \$1,500 grant donated by **Yankee Book Peddler, Inc.** and a citation presented at the membership meeting of the Association during the **ALA Annual Conference**. This award is given to recognize the contribution to those areas of librarianship included in library collections and technical services by a librarian with not more than ten years of professional experience who has shown outstanding promise for continuing contribution and leadership. For more information including submission procedures and criteria, contact **Larry Heiman**, Chair of Esther J. Piercy Award

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Jury at <larry.heiman@yale.edu>. The deadline for nominations is **December 1, 2005**.

CrossRef, the reference-linking service for scholarly and professional content, has announced the launch of a freely available **OpenURL resolver** to facilitate navigation to the 17+ million items now registered in **CrossRef**. The resolver, described at <http://www.crossref.org/openurl> allows users to enter an OpenURL as one way to be directed to publications from the hundreds of publishers and societies that participate in **CrossRef** by registering **Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)** for their content. **CrossRef's OpenURL resolver** is offered at no charge for individual use, and thus functions as a DOI look-up resource for the public. It is fully compliant with the recently approved **NISO Z38.88 - 2004 standard entitled OpenURL Framework for Context-Sensitive Services**. The **CrossRef** resolver accepts URLs structured according to the 0.1 or 1.0 NISO specifications, as well as some common deviations, and it supports the features outlined in the **San Antonio Profile (SAP) #1** community profile, including in-line, by-value, and by-reference URLs. **CrossRef** has also long made available a free text-based interface for individual DOI queries, available at <http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/>. **CrossRef** is an independent membership association, founded and directed by publishers. Its mission is to improve access to published scholarship through collaborative technologies. **CrossRef** operates a cross-publisher citation linking system, and is an official **DOI (Digital Object Identifier) registration agency**. The **OpenURL** is a mechanism for transporting metadata and identifiers describing a publication, for the purpose of context-sensitive linking. For more information on the OpenURL, see <http://library.caltech.edu/openurl> and http://www.niso.org/standards/standard_detail.cfm?std_id=783. Additional information is available at <http://www.crossref.org>.

Did y'all know that the awesome and incredibly energetic **Kent Mulliner**, previously Asst. Dean for Collection Development at Ohio University has retired? It was news to us! **Kent** will hopefully be in **Charleston** in November!

Speaking of **Charleston** in November, the full program for the **Conference** is now on the Website — www.katina.info/conference. Thanks to many, many, countless people! See y'all soon!

And more about the **Charleston Conference**. I miss working with the wonderful, competent, awesome **Rosann Bazirjian**. But I guess she has a good excuse since she is now **University Librarian** at the **University of North Carolina—Greensboro** and Presi-

dent, **Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS)** of the **American Library Association**. Plus she has been selected as a **UCLA Senior Fellow**! Still, I miss her. She tells me that her son **Terence** has just started College at Penn State this fall. Talk about a lot going on!

Lucky for all of us, **Beth Bernhardt** <Beth_Bernhardt@uncg.edu> has been helping with the nitty-gritty of the **Conference program** — preparing spreadsheets, contacting speakers, etc., etc. Plus we have the incredible **Charleston Conference Program Committee** which includes — **Glenda Alvin** <galvin@Tnstate.edu>, **Cris Ferguson** <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, **David Goodman** <dgoodman@liu.edu>, **Chuck Hamaker** <cahamake@email.uncg.edu>, **Ramune Kubilius** <r-kubilius@northwestern.edu>, **Heather Miller** <hmillier@uamail.albany.edu>, **Jack Montgomery** <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, **Audrey Powers** <PowersA@montevallo.edu>, **Vicky Speck** <vspeck@abc-clio.com>, **John Perry Smith** <jps@totalinformation.com>, and **Anthony Watkinson** <anthony.watkinson@btopenworld.com>. And that's just some of the group. Not counting all the people in **Charleston** and elsewhere! And those I have left out. Whew! I'm tired just thinking of the list of people who have helped!

Time passes. **Jan Willem Dijkstra** retired from **Elsevier** on April 14, 2005. His successor is **Lotte Sluyser** <L.sluyser@elsevier.com>. Remember our interview in **ATG** way back when. Like I said, time passes, no, I should say, it flies!

Speaking of time flying, I am sure that many of you will remember **Dorinda Harmon** <HarmonD@cofc.edu> who worked with the **College of Charleston Conference Center** for many years. (Dorinda's first **Charleston Conference** was 1989 in the **Mills House Hotel**. That was the year of **Hurricane Hugo**, and, boy, does she have some stories to tell!) Well, anyway, back to the subject at hand. It has happened. **Dorinda's** little baby **Daniel** has turned 18! I will let you ask her how they celebrated when you see her at the **Conference** in November.

Duke University Press has announced that the site license for the new **e-Duke Scholarly Collection** is now available for download on the **Duke University Press Website** (<http://www.dukeupress.edu/library/Duke/sitelicense.html>). Librarians can view **Duke University Press's** new "**Library Resource Center**," which, in addition to hosting the site license, acts as a repository of information (access information, pricing, online availability of **Duke journals**, etc.) of particular interest to librarians at <http://www.dukeupress.edu/library>. In addition to announcing the availability of the site license, **Duke University Press** also announced the creation of a new international pricing model for its **e-Duke Scholarly Collection**. The model is based on an institution's existing holdings (both volume and serial) and economic class as determined by **World Bank Development Indicators**. www.dukeupress.edu www.dukeupress.edu/library/eDuke/intlpricing.html www.dukeupress.edu/library

Dana Sally has left **UNC-Greensboro** where he was Associate Director and is now the new **Dean of Libraries** at **University of West Florida**. And, guess what, his first day was a hurricane evacuation day so he couldn't be there.

And **Beth Bernhardt** has been a huge, enormous, gigantic help with the program of the **2005 Charleston Conference**! Beth's daughter, **Anna**, who loves to play volleyball (just like my daughter did at her age) but she is sidelined with a torn ACL — but not for long I'll bet!!

Hear from **Mitchell Davis** of **BookSurge** <mitchell@booksurge.com>. **BookSurge** was acquired by **Amazon.com** in April, 2005 and **Mitchell** is re-locating to corporate headquarters in Seattle. The plan, however, is to keep **BookSurge** in good old **Charleston**. They are doubling staff at that facility. I didn't get to see **Mitchell** in **Chicago** but I understand that he was there. Watch for an interview coming soon! www.booksurge.com

Read about **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc., et al., Petitioners v. Grokster, Ltd., et al.**, the recently decided Supreme Court file-sharing case and the distribution of peer-to-peer (P2P) systems, this issue, p.62.

Had a grand visit with the awesome **John Laraway** <John.Laraway@Blackwell.com> the other day, John was on his way down to Florida and hoping to avoid bad weather. Lots of good stuff is happening with **Collection Manager**.

And had yet another delightful visit with **Danny Overstreet** of **OCLC/netlibrary**. Did you know he used to work for **IDS** as well as **SilverPlatter**?

Speaking of which, **Danny** and I were talking about the growing popularity of **AudioBooks** and this news caught my eye — **Recorded Books, LLC**, the premier publisher of unabridged audiobooks since 1979 and a **Hights Cross Communications** company, (we've heard that name

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WEBWORTHY

Column Editor: **Pamela M. Rose, M.L.S.** (Web Services & Library Promotion Coordinator, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo; Phone: 716-829-3900 x129; Fax: 716-829-2211) <pmrose@buffalo.edu> wings.buffalo.edu/~pmrose

Webworthy has reviewed 338 Websites to date! Are you reading this intro? If so, we'd like to know if you find this column useful! Email the editor at <pmrose@buffalo.edu> with your comments and any suggestions for improvement!

Websites are chosen for uniqueness, depth of information, functionality and ease of access. Sites are organized by broad subject area and are visited just prior to publication. Please let the editor know of any broken links. Comments and suggestions welcome to Pamela M. Rose, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, 3435 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214-3002; 716-829-3900 x129; <pmrose@buffalo.edu>. Unless otherwise noted, Internet sites were also reviewed in Science's NetWatch column. — PR

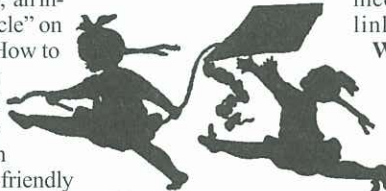
Herpetology

Did you know that constrictors (snakes who kill by encircling or pinning their prey) do not kill by suffocation? Rather they collapse the chest cavity so much that the heart shuts down, which is about twice as fast as suffocation — luckily for the victim! Also, contrary to popular misconception, snakes are not slimy at all, rather they are smooth, dry and often feel like silk-over-muscle. “Slimy” is a better description for amphibians, who spend much of their life in water and so have a nice, mucousy covering for protection. It's all part of educating citizens about that which researchers know well. The **Center for North American Herpetology**, a non-profit foundation centered in Lawrence, Kansas, has worked since 1994 to promote education and conservation of amphibians, turtles, reptiles, crocodilians, and tuataras (fascinating animal — has a single row of teeth on the lower jaw that fits in between the double row on the

upper, and third EYE on the top of its head, as do some other lizards!) **CNAH** serves as a data bank, provides financial support to further research, offers awards, and acts as a repository for quality photos that are offered for sale at modest cost. Although the Web site only links to other sites with basic descriptive information on the general classes of herps, it offers information on careers/jobs/graduate study, societies, taxonomy, directories of herpetologists, a pdf library of selected articles published in journals in the field, information on new species, conference listings, new publications, online collection links and links by taxonomy, current research initiatives, and hot news in the field. Well worth visiting! — <http://www.cnah.org/index.asp>

Librarianship

The Informed Librarian, “professional reading for the information professional” since January 2003, offers links to the table of contents of over 275 [as of this writing] library and information-related journals. The journal titles can be viewed either in a title or subject list. The newsletter offers a monthly compilation of 11+ premium featured articles, an informative “Guest Forum Article” on timely topics (May was on “How to Write Right”), and a featured book review with discounted purchase option. Readers can comment on the guest forum article and choose a printer-friendly format for many pages. Those articles available in full-text are either pdf, or move you to the publishers Website with varying options to view as pdf or html. All issues are archived, fully searchable, with saved search criteria for future use. Users can take advantage of a “free membership” with limited access. Subscriptions



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Research

Reading about it is one thing, but the average viewer can watch a program demonstrating minimally invasive and robotic surgery at **The ResearchChannel**, whose Web motto is “one bright idea after another.” Also billed as the “C-SPAN of scientific and medical research”, the 24 hour a day broadcasts aired over cable and satellite networks are archived and available for Internet viewing on demand. The shows are produced by over 25 universities, the **NIH**, and other sources. **UVA** and the **U. of Washington** have a number of programs, including medical programs that are linked to the **U. of Washington's** miniMedical school. A visit to the **Video Library** archive allows viewers to browse by broad subject or access new releases. Watch a lecture on the value of poetry to society, see interviews with artists from painters and sculptors to writers, or a tutorial on applied geometry. Viewers can also call up a sample letter to send to their local cable or satellite network to ask that they carry the channel. — <http://www.researchchannel.org/>

Rumors

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before, this issue, p.10) is offering U.S. libraries a new downloadable audiobook subscription service. The service is the result of Recorded Books' strategic agreement last year with **NetLibrary**. According to **David Berset**, Recorded Books President and CEO, “Recorded Books' national library sales force has been presenting our new Downloadable Audiobooks service to our thousands of library customers. Their response has been overwhelmingly positive and customers are signing-on quickly. For several years now, libraries have seen growing demand for audiobooks in CD and cassette formats. Downloadable Audiobooks available through a library's Website is the ‘next big idea’ in developing exciting new approaches to win and keep a new generation of library patrons.”

And speaking of new technology — **Mark Anderson's** book has just come out. It is of interest on many levels because it's about **Shakespeare** but also because of its use of new technology (**ipod**) and also because it's by the fabulous **John Riley**

<jdriley@comcast.net>. Read all about it, this issue, p.48.

The **PsycINFO Department** of the **American Psychological Association** welcomes **Lynn Willis** as new **content development manager**. With a background in chemistry and more than 15 years in the publishing industry, Lynn joined APA in May. Most recently she was employed by The **Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)**, where she served as managing editor of **The FASEB Journal**. In her new role at APA, Lynn will work with publishers and other content providers to acquire more information for both **PsycEXTRA** and **PsycINFO**. Her long-term goals include a desire to get more interdisciplinary material into the **APA databases** in order to provide users access to the information where “psychology intersects with other disciplines.” Noting that this material can be difficult to locate, Lynn is actively seeking input from scholars, librarians, and others about what they would like to see covered in the APA databases. Lynn would also like to collaborate with academic publishers and hopes to reach out to these organizations. Lynn is eager to hear from database users. Please contact her at <llwillis@apa.org>.

And more. We told you that **Bob** and **Wendy**

Schatz had moved to Mt. Pleasant (see **ATG**, v.17, no.3, p.8) recently. Anyway, we recently had supper together at a great new barbeque restaurant in downtown Charleston (on King Street) that y'all are going to love. Anyway, Bob's company, **Coutts Library Services** has announced a recent contract award with **James Madison University**, Harrisonburg, Virginia. **Coutts** will provide **JMU** with monographs on approval, standing orders and some firm orders. **Coutts** works closely with liaison librarians at **JMU** to strengthen subject profiles. **Daille Pettit**, acquisitions/collections librarian stated that: “Following the RFP process **Coutts** was appointed as one of two suppliers to **JMU** libraries. Working with new book vendors presents a great opportunity for us to implement new procedures.” www.couttsinfo.com/

I guess a lot of us are substituting electronic for print and that will be the subject of many talks at the **Charleston Conference** in November. Along those lines, **H.W. Wilson** has announced the latest addition to the **Wilson Retrospective Collection** of periodicals databases: **Education Index Retrospective: 1929-1983**. This is the space-saving online equivalent to 33 **Education Index** print annuals, with

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Little Red Herrings — Stop the Presses: Feet No Longer Needed; Hands Next to Go

by **Mark Y. Herring** (Dean of Library Services, Dacus Library, Winthrop University) <herringm@winthrop.edu>

Am I the only one? Am I the only one who finds the spate of recent articles about the “digital tsunami” a bit odd and unquestionably professionally suicidal? In many ways, to listen to our colleagues talk about how digitization is fast replacing libraries is like the young man who, after being found guilty of murdering his parents, threw himself on the mercy of the court because he was an orphan. Keep this up and we’ll all be working for **Microsoft**, or not at all.

Take for example the article that appeared in the 1 July issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. **Fred Heath**, provost of the **University of Texas**, gleefully talks about how undergraduates this fall will come back to an “information commons” rather than the 90,000-plus volumes the library used to have. Replacing **UT-Austin’s** carping bun-heads will be “Internet-savvy” librarians! Notwithstanding his admission, **Mr. Heath** is not wet behind the ears either. “All of us are dealing with a creative tension between our commitment to this great print collection and the digital tsunami that’s bearing down on us,” he says. I don’t know if the Austin-heat got to **Mr. Heath**, but I have not felt that digital tsunami, unless of course he means to conjure the colossal damage tsunamis wreak in their wake. **Mr. Heath** goes on to inform us that, “The challenge is to re-engineer our space to be able to move into this suddenly, formidably huge digital universe.”

I don’t mean to pick on **Mr. Heath** but that is precisely *not* the challenge. The challenge is the same as it has always been: to deliver first-rate library service regardless of the medium. The trouble is, we’ve been down this road before. Anytime we make the medium, the format, more important than the information, the knowledge, we lose sight of what library service is all about. Years ago, when I first entered this profession, libraries faced the same weebegone future: microforms would turn every library into the size of a shoebox. No longer would we need library buildings because everyone would have his or her own library tucked under arm.



Here we are, twenty years later trying to figure out a way to close the book altogether on microforms.

When it becomes clear that the pitfalls of microforms were so formidable they would not be easily resolved, automation (in the form of catalogs) reared its hydra-head and promised to transform the library to a mere figment of our ancestors’ imaginations. Twenty years later, here we are adapting automation in various ways but certainly didn’t replace libraries with it. When we came to understand automation not as panacea but as merely another tool (like microforms), we got somewhat serious about library service.

But we were only serious until public television appeared on the educational scene. Now surely here was a turning point. Surely public television would *completely* transform not just libraries but every facet of education from kindergarten to college. University campuses would be transformed overnight, making it possible to teach tens of thousands of students via television. College and university campuses would be closing all over the country. Twenty years later here we are trying to find out if public television can produce an unbiased show. In many ways, public television reminds us of that old saw: “Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: what might have been.”

Are you able to discern a trend here? **Mr. Heath** may have forgotten that this country still maintains the most draconian copyright laws in the world, a point overlooked by **Google’s** grand digitization project but one it is slowly coming to grips with. We are discovering that **Google’s** grand project may turn out to be the equivalent of academic Web-bytes, snippets of books that provide a clue but not more and so miss the Scylla of copyright while crashing on the Charybdis shoals of flaneurism. Just what we need: another reason to make sure the rising generation not only never loses its allergy to reading but will be confirmed in it.

Or perhaps **Mr. Heath** has forgotten about ecology. Are Texas students more abstemious about printing than those on the east coast? Here


students hit the print key if the Web return is longer than three pages. Multiply that by 20,000 students at just one campus and you’ll make a tree-hugger out of **Rush Limbaugh**.

Other reasons obtain. When **CalPoly** determined on a new library building it erected a \$42 million conventional one. With the nation’s largest concentration of engineers and computer geeks at their disposal and they couldn’t come up with a paperless library. And what about all those failed, failing, or stumbling digitization outfits: **netLibrary**, **Xanadu**, **Questa** and others? Doesn’t this tell us anything?

Or where are those digital support industries that should already be present? We still don’t have an eBook reader that is worth the silicon it’s printed on. So far my favorite is one that simulates a turning page and smells like leather. Of course, you still can’t read it in the sunlight but who reads any more? Apparently not many at **UT-Austin**. Does this strike anyone as a potential problem in a rush to digital judgment day? When these objections are raised, they are generally brushed off as not something to worry about. It will all come out in the wash. Meanwhile, **Mr. Gorbachev**, tear down that library!

Oh, I know what you’re thinking. Another Luddite, a freak, a man from Erewhon raving like a madman about computers and Big Brother, and all that radiation from monitors. Pat him on the head and he’ll go away. Here’s the point of what I’m saying: there is a place for electronic services in every library, especially when it comes to serial information. But in the same manner that all our other tools are not the library-in-itself, neither is digitization. It is not a rolling tsunami washing the library away in its wake, or a fast-moving freight train that we must either board or be run over, if I may mix metaphors. It is simply another tool that we must insinuate in libraries, not to replace them, but to make them what they have always been: the first, best source for information access. Like all would-be-contenders before now, make the Web-alone, or any of its constituent parts a library and you have a very poor, very inadequate ersatz.

I see this talk about the Web replacing or making libraries obsolete as silly as if some academic were to rush forward and say, “Here’s a way to save money: let’s digitize all university athletic teams! We’ll save on liability, can get rid of very costly athletic departments, allow every student to play and determine the outcome (your team always wins), dispense with paying coaches millions of dollars, no longer have to put up with off-the-field or court antics of some players, and help focus every incoming students’ eyes on the very reason why go to college in the first place: to get an education.”

Even though such nonsense talk might get a hearing in some latte-corners of the world, it’s just palaver. Likewise is all this talk about digitization replacing libraries, or making them obsolete. It’s like saying the invention of shoes have now made all feet unnecessary. 

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records for more than 830,000 articles from over 600 leading periodicals. www.hwwilson.com/

And speaking of meetings — Following a rapid development process, the **Circulation and Fulfillment Division of the American Institute of Physics** has launched its new online meetings registration service. A key function of the new service allows attendees to register online in real time, with links between the online registration site and **AIP’s** membership database to provide immediate confirmation of membership or other factors affecting registration fees

or benefits. **AIP** developed the capability to process online registrations with multiple variables at the request of one of its newest distribution customers, the **American Geophysical Union (AGU)**. **AGU** required multiple registration types based on membership type, days attending, products purchased, and guest attendance. The service ties all of this information to the individual’s existing account so that a society can track a member’s meeting attendance, along with their memberships, subscriptions, and contributions. The service allows for the processing and maintenance of nonmember registrations, as well. www.aip.org/

And speaking of meeting registrations, go to <http://www.katina.info/conference> and register online! The full conference program is up. See you soon! Cheers! 